

my colleagues and the leaders of this country in the advancements we have made to this precious industry, but we must not stop there. We must continue to strive toward more U.S. oil and gas production and guard against the interruption of foreign supplies in the future. If we fail to recognize the dangers of an increased reliance on imported oil, this country could once again find itself in the same predicament we were in with the Middle East in 1991.

At a time when Washington is trying to balance the budget and promising ways to stimulate the economy, Congress and the leaders of this Nation must take a hard look at the domestic oil and gas industry for answers. In the end, this Nation's economy will reap the benefits of a strong domestic industry instead of suffering the consequences of our dangerous dependence on foreign oil.

PRESIDENT CLINTON SUPPORTS BIG GOVERNMENT

(Mr. FORBES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, less than 3 months ago President Clinton, who brought us Goals 2000, AmeriCorps, a \$260 billion tax increase to pay for more Federal spending, a plan for Government-run health care, a \$16 billion pork-barrel stimulus package, and to cap it all off \$800 billion in new debt, stood in this room and with a straight face spoke these words: "The era of big government is over."

Well, well, well, and how is President Clinton hoping to end the era of big government today? Let us see, he is demanding, as his price to keep the Government open, \$8 billion more—that is right \$8 billion—in new big government spending.

Mr. Speaker, the President may have declared the end of an era, but that is about all he did. Now, do not get me wrong, Republicans have done their part. We have saved American taxpayers more than \$20 billion in the past year. But make sure you look beyond the words and observe the actions—Bill Clinton is big government's last line of defense, and he has got an \$8 billion plan to prove it.

□ 1415

GIVE AMERICA'S CHILDREN A 21ST CENTURY EDUCATION

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, 27 House Republicans joined Democrats and endorsed the Senate's plan to add \$2.6 billion back into education.

Many of us have been urging Speaker GINGRICH to follow the Senate's lead and restore these funds.

We welcome the support from our 27 Republican colleagues. Their letter said that education must be one of our Nation's top priorities and the Senate has taken responsible action to protect our children's future.

I agree and I can tell you that in my State of Connecticut, these cuts would be disastrous. Educators in Connecticut are staring down the barrel of a gun because they face a March 30 deadline for notifying teachers of layoffs if Federal funds are not available.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when Americans are anxious about their economic future, we should be increasing our investment in education. This crisis is entirely preventable. Let's pass a full-year budget that gives our citizens the tools they need to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

BILL CLINTON'S VIEW OF AMERICA: MORE TAXES, MORE SPENDING, MORE GOVERNMENT

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today the President is going to release his budget. Unfortunately, his view of America is more taxes, more spending, and more government.

This is a fact, it is not partisan rhetoric, and we should not be surprised. In the past 3 years President Clinton has passed the largest tax increase in history, vetoed welfare reform, not once, but twice, vetoed tax benefits for families and businesses, vetoed the first balanced budget in 26 years, and allowed Medicare to go bankrupt.

Now he simply wants \$8 billion more in new spending this year and a 4-percent increase in spending next year; all this despite his rhetoric that the era of big government is over. This President has proven he cannot manage his own bureaucracy. He has shown by his actions he is not ready to give the people of this country the ability to achieve their own American dream.

RESTORE FUNDING FOR EDUCATION

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, what the President and Democrats in Congress have been saying is that priorities, whether it be education, the environment, or protecting health care, particularly for seniors with Medicare and Medicaid, that these priorities should not be cut in these constant budget battles in this House of Representatives. That is why it is so important that we restore education funding.

The House has passed a bill that cuts education funding by \$3.3 billion, a 13-percent cut over the previous year. That is going to mean layoffs in local school districts or it is going to mean

property taxes to those school districts that want to keep educational programs that would otherwise be lost, and what we are saying is that in this budget battle education must be a priority.

The Republicans in the Senate have already voted to restore this education funding because they do not want to see the teachers laid off. They want to make sure that students in the various school districts around the country get a proper education, that class sizes do not get too large, that they are able to get textbooks, and they are able to get the things that are necessary and provided under title I funding.

The Republicans should not sacrifice education, and that is what they are doing here in this House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HUTCHINSON) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE CLERK,

Washington, DC, March 19, 1996.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Monday, March 18th at 2:55 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits the text of a proposed agreement between the U.S. Government and the Government of the Argentine Republic Regarding the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

With warm regards,

ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk, House of Representatives.

PROPOSED AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINE REPUBLIC CONCERNING PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 104-188)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress, pursuant to sections 123 b. and 123 d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2153(b), (d)), the text of a proposed Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Argentine Republic Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy with accompanying annex and agreed minute. I am also pleased to